

REMARKS

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 112

The Examiner has rejected claim 11 under 35 USC 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. The claim(s) contain subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s). The Applicant respectfully traverses. The Detailed Description of the specification describes a sulfate getter on page 10 lines 12 – 16 where it is stated:

In addition to the benzotriazole inhibitors, additional corrosion inhibitors containing Ba^{2+} or Ca^{2+} may be added to suppress the pitting corrosion that occurs in the presence of $\text{S}_2\text{O}_8^{2-}$. The addition of these cations **getters SO^{4-} [sulfate] species** that otherwise attack the passive Cu-benzotriazole layer by forming an insoluble precipitate of either BaSO_4 or CaSO_4 .

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 103

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-3 and 8-11 under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Farkas et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,001,730), in view of Kaufman et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,063,306) and Cadien et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,340,370). The Applicant respectfully traverses. The cited references fail to teach or render obvious the Applicant's claims. In particular the cited references, either individually or in combination, do not teach the element of independent claims 1 and 11 of "a corrosion inhibitor comprising a sulfate getter." All three of the cited references, Farkas, Kaufman, and Cadien, fail to teach a corrosion inhibitor comprising a sulfate getter. Therefore, the Applicant respectfully submits that independent claims 1 and 11, and claims 2 – 10 that depend upon and incorporate the elements of claim 1, are not obvious in light of Farkas in view of Kaufman and Cadien.

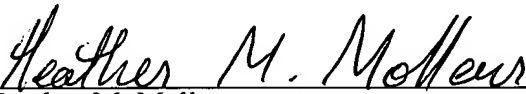
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Reply to Office Action of September 25, 2003

If there are any additional charges, please charge Deposit Account No. 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,

BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN

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Heather M. Molleur
Reg. No. 50,432

12400 Wilshire Boulevard
Seventh Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90025-1026
(408) 720-8300